



Friday
December 17,
2010

Weekly Views

Mr. Duane Alsip has been appointed as Assistant Superintendent of Re-Entry at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Mr. Alsip had been serving in this position in an interim capacity since September 27th. Congratulations Mr. Alsip!

Miami Correctional Facility's K-9 team rang the Salvation Army bell at Kroger. Twelve K-9 handlers took turns venturing the cold from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. This is the third year the team has given its time for this program.

Approximately 150 children and adults attended New Castle Correctional Facility's first ever Children's Party. Each child received a gift bag and had their picture taken with Santa in addition to playing games and feasting on treats.

Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted two events for offenders from the Inside Out Dads Program. Six of the program's graduates completed the "Read with Me" program that allows the offender to sit and read a book, while being recorded on a DVD. The book and DVD is then sent to their child. 32 offenders from Inside Out Dads and 82 visitors attended the "Holiday with Dads" program to spend time with their children. During the event, the offenders and their visitors played games and had snacks.

30 staff members from the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) participated in the local Deserving Children's Christmas program. WCC staff took the children on a wonderful evening of Christmas shopping and dinner. The annual holiday event is sponsored by the Jaycees. This is the third year that WCC has been so well represented at this wonderful community event.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility completed another successful "Toys for Hendricks County Kids" drive. Local schools provided the names of 112 underprivileged children. Staff were in the giving spirit and provided gifts for all of the children, which were delivered to the schools by Santa Claus himself (PCF's own George Shepherd).

Competition among IDOC Parole Districts concluded for the first annual Project GRIN (Giving Resources to Indiana's Needy). Winner of the traveling trophy was the Indianapolis Parole District #3 Office (PD#3). PD#3 donated money, food, and personal hygiene items to the Hunger Incorporated food pantry. They also collected toys and books for the Wheeler Mission Women & Children's Center. As a division, Parole donated 1115 items ranging from food stuffs to hygiene to clothes. This number represents the donations of 120 staff making our average per person just under 10 items each. All contributions went to organizations or directly to needy families within each of the nine districts.

Christmas came early for veterans living at the Hutsonville, Illinois Heritage House, thanks to the Wabash Valley PLUS program! Participants made bags for the homes 56 residents, stuffed with a greeting card, snacks, hygiene items, stamped envelopes and a holiday stocking. Wabash Valley staff passed out the holiday gifts. The PLUS program also made 255 holiday stockings filled with treats; bound for the Lafayette based Indiana Veterans Home.

The Women's Fund sponsored a Holiday Party for the offenders assigned to the Indiana Women's Prison Child Preservation Program. The offenders and 80 of their children had lunch from Chick-fil-A, participated in arts and crafts, face painting and holiday cheer. All of the children received gifts and candy canes to take home.

The Family Education Department at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Christmas party for participants of the Children's Visitation Center. The children were treated to a breakfast buffet with their fathers, participated in arts and crafts, and were presented with Christmas gifts.

Sixteen offenders from Henryville Correctional Facility graduated from the cognitive thinking program Freedom 101, which is run by volunteers. Henryville has had a total of 64 offenders graduate from five different Freedom 101 classes in an eighteen month time period.

La Lumiere, a private school in LaPorte, IN, completed a service project to help children in the visiting room at the Indiana State Prison. Children's table and chairs, coloring books and crayons and a magazine rack have been provided to entertain the children while they wait for their visit.

IDOC Central Office staff enjoyed Breakfast with Santa (PCF's George Shepherd). Staff were able to bring their family members to enjoy food provided by Aramark and the culinary arts programs at Rockville Correctional Facility and the Indiana Women's Prison. Central Office also completed their "Holiday Toy Drive" in partnership with the prison fellowship organization Angel Tree. Angel Tree reaches out to the children of inmates and their families, connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts.

Nine students and their professor from the Criminal Justice Department at IUPUI toured the Correctional Industrial Facility.